



Fort Worth Thunderbirds Radio Control Association Inc. **The Pilot's Log**



Issue 4469, March 2020

Next club meeting: March 2020 Meeting has been CANCELLED due to Virus concerns/restrictions

Presidents Corner: *by James Meadows*

Wow, this year has been full of challenges and its only three months old. I want to say thank you, to all the members who responded to the request for Public comments on the FAA's proposed rules for UAS operations. I believe it will make a difference in the end. Members' attendance at the Monthly meeting has increased significantly over the last few months. It is greatly appreciated. Thanks to Gary James for giving us a great lesson on the marvels of CNC foam core cutting. If you have an idea or would like to share a skill or technique related to modeling, please send a note to Vice President Rob Lowe.

Been at the field lately as the sun is setting and find yourself packing in the dark? Let the light shine, additional lights have been installed at the field. Thanks to the members who helped installing or donated the material.

Corona, or COVID-19, whatever you want to call it, it has the potential to be bad. For all who may not have seen the announcement the March meeting at Buffalo West has been CANCELLED, the SAE event scheduled for early April is CANCELLED, as our community, state and nation attempt to get ahead of this thing. The field is open, and if you choose to fly. I would ask that each of you follow established guidelines concerning social distance and take some hand sanitizer and wipes.

The water is rising! The lake level is rising, and the Corp is monitoring the levels. If the water should close the Mustang Park entrance, then we will have access to the field via the Bear Creek Gate. A message will be sent out to membership notifying you about the change.

Be careful out there!

Notice

Training is canceled in its official form till April 9, due to high water and the need to maintain social distance as the community, state and nation deal with the Covid-19 virus.

Field is open to members via the Bear creek park gate. Members should be reminded to lock the gate lock to lock immediately upon entry and exit. All other activities in the park are closed or require an additional fee. Members must proceed directly to or from the gate to Thunderbird Field. Gate schedules and park closures can occur at anytime, so members and guest should check the website or contact an officer to determine the status of the field.

Members should remember to maintain social distance 6ft separation. Wash hands frequently for 20 sec or longer with soap and water. Hand sanitizer when water and soap is not available, disinfectant wipes to clean equipment if shared (transmitters). Cover mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing. If you have a high fever, persistent cough and trouble breathing then please stay home and contact your healthcare provider.

Vice Presidents Corner: *by Rob Lowe*

Been working all weekend on corona stuff - crazy. I don't have anything specific for this month. We are cancelling the meeting which is appropriate.

Stay safe - social distance by staying in your own pilot box! LOL

February Club Meeting Minutes: *by Mike Schroeder*

Meeting starts 7:01pm 1901. James welcomed club members and asked if there are any new members and visiting guest. Great to see Gary Nelson and Kenneth Killgo at the meeting. Thunderbirds welcome to Ashton Shaw, Tina Shaw and Chester Shaw who are pilots in the training program.

Recap of January

FAA Proposal: Final date March 2nd to submit your thoughts on the new FAA drone rules. Please take the time to review and turn in as many inputs as you can. Give solutions. Get it done.

James had an SAE video to show, but due to technical difficulties the video was scrubbed. The SAE video is posted on the Thunderbird website.

SAE: Tom Blakeney is the director for the SAE event when it is at Thunderbird field. Tom gave us a quick re-cap on the SAE event. There will be eighty teams here and it has some of the best entertainment you can watch. The new regular class should be fun since there are new rules. The SAE event is April 4-5

SAE: Bill Lake is the Thunderbird club coordinator. So far there have been eighty-five members that have signed up for the two hundred slots available. Those of you who have signed up, Thank You. Those of you that responded "Put me in Coach" Thank You. Those of you who have not signed up there is still time to get into the action and help out your club. Thursday is field work Friday is inspection and Saturday and Sunday is the competition. Inspection training will be March 28 and an email will be sent out to remind you. Everything else is on the job training.

Future Events

Electric Fly in is the last Saturday of October. Turbo jet event is also in October.

Officers Reports

Treasures Report-Chris Berardi: The Christmas party has been book for the Botanic Gardens for December 5. This was the only date available. Checking and savings accounts are in good standing. There was a deposit from PayPal into the checking account that was for membership renewals. Chris will transfer funds from checking into savings. Member renewals we now have 157 members 7 associate members, 12 life members and 3 gift members.

Secretary Report-Mike Schroeder: Brian Lowe made a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes with Sarge's seconding the motion. A show of hands for the motion with only one opposed. The motion passed

Safety Report-Ed Kettler: Ed congratulated Gary Nelson on his heart surgery and the success. Good to see you Gary.

Ed gave us a last bit of information on writing to the FAA to comment on the drone rules. You still have time to get in your thoughts about the proposed FAA rules until March 2. You can send in as many letters as you want to write. Garry Rife says you can also contact Senator Ted Cruz's office as he is on the transportation committee which the FAA falls under.

Vice Presidents Report- Rob Lowe: Nothing to report at this time.

Show and Tell

Woody has a new FMS Beaver plane with floats. The plane has a 78 inch wingspan, weights roughly eight pounds, 60A ESC, recommended six cell 4000mAH battery, six channels with a red and white color scheme. Woody still has to maiden the plane after he does a little more tuning up on it.

Ed Furche showed us his T-45 jet that he got as an open box plane that needed a little to complete. The plane has 18 servos, a 90mm ducted fan motor with retracts. Ed gave us a good laugh telling us the issues he ran across like the time he did a test run of the motor and sucked up a rag into the intake and destroyed the motor. Nice looking plane. You can purchase either version, with or without the rag.



Project list

The following are some of the items the board is talking about:

1. Weather station with internet connections
2. Review lease
3. Pilot box for the helicopter guys
4. Moving training center to the South side of the parking lot
5. RV area
6. Trees along Joe Joplin road
7. Old five year plan to 2018
8. New five year plan from 2020
9. Talk to CORP about float fly on Benbrook Lake
10. Make new lease a twenty year lease with a five year payment

Program:

Gary James demonstrated CNC hot wire foam cutting of plane wings. Gary has built a CNC hot wire machine to cut his own foam core wings. Gary uses the dev/CAD software to designs the wings and parts he wants to cut out. The CNC hot wire machine can cut out a wing under five minutes. Gary also showed an old hand held bow hot with cutter that can be used also, but will not be as accurate as the CNC cutter.

Club Auction items were a Spitfire bought by Hunter, CMP Zero bought by Ed, Hobbico Cub bought by Wayne, Uni Jett bought by Ashton Shaw.

Raffle

Great Raffle guys and Thanks for helping support your club.

Thunderbird Members in Attendance

50

Brian Lowe

Jason Meadows

Rob Lowe

Gary Lowe
Hunter
Kenneth Killgo
Gary James
John Bruce
Larry Fuller
Robin Blakeney
Tom Blakeney
Bill Lake
Ed Kettler
Ian Waring
Woody Lake
Mel Wells
Ken Knotts

Gary Nelson
Chris Berardi
James Meadows
Tab Bowland
Tom Benke
Pete Devlin
Gary Cummings
Ed Furche
Chip Mull
Berni Mull
Dennis Niles
Garry Rife
Mark Ehlers
Johnny Hunt

Clarence Konkle
Randy Shaw
Wayne Lemkelde
Lonnie Cooper
Paul Mayhan
Roger Spencer
Jesse Zamora
Sam Corlett
Tracy Kobs
Chester Shaw
Tina Shaw
Ashton Shaw
Robert Dannewitz
Mike Schroeder

From the Treasury: by *Chris Berardi*

It's Happened Before.

The COVID-19 outbreak isn't new - the virus is new, but not America's experience with rampant viral infections. In fact, in recent history our country has been shaped by disease in a fashion that far surpasses in gore and impact that brought by the Corona virus. When the American Civil War broke out, this virus was already well established. In fact this virus would permeate American history, culture and economics for 200 years starting in 1648.

I am speaking of the "American Plague" known as Yellow Fever. This virus, carried by mosquitoes, was not as contagious like the Corona virus. Transmission was primarily by the greatest killer of all humankind, the mosquito. It did not kill in the way that its contemporaries, cholera and smallpox did or in the same number but its presence was felt from the northeast all the way to the western borders of Texas. In fact, Yellow Fever was the primary cause for our capital moving from Philadelphia to Washington D.C. after an epidemic in 1793. Alexander Hamilton had the fever and George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson fled leaving the U.S. government paralyzed.

It wasn't until 1929 when Max Theiler caught the attention of the Rockefeller Foundation at Harvard. Max worked with Dr. Wilbur Sawyer on a vaccine to inoculate doctors that worked in the labs - those same doctors were dying while they worked with Yellow Fever. And, just like in the movies, blood from a mouse and an immune human were commingled to provide the first manmade vaccine that was injected into Bruce Wilson. Bruce understood the ramifications of the test as he was a health director working in Brazil to combat malaria. It took many more years to produce large scale quantities of vaccine against the virus but as war approached the new vaccine was provided to all troops departing for the tropics in 1941. By 1942 over 7 million doses had been provided to American and British troops fighting in Africa.

There is a lot more to the story and further refinement of the vaccine was needed due to hepatitis issues. Ultimately in 1951 Max Theiler was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine.

We live in modern times: A vaccine for Corona virus is likely to take months rather than decades to procure. But as you can see, some things never change and the folly of human nature today is the root causes much of the ancillary issues in this pandemic. On the one hand, we have autocratic governments attempting to hide the presence of the disease as if there is point deduction for admitting it was sourced within their borders. And on the other, we have open societies where panic is spread through social media leading to unnecessary shortages of staples and erasure of common sense. And you know what they say about common sense... it isn't so very common.

We will survive this pandemic and be stronger and more organized for the future. Governments will react if not for the health of their citizenry but for their own self-preservation depending on the nature of governmental power. We all should learn how

very enterprising Mother Nature is. If we as a species keep multiplying and interfering with the perfect circular rhythm of life on this planet, it is almost guaranteed that another novel virus is coming our way. Next time this virus might be much less stable with more adaptable RNA that makes it impossible to vaccinate against. Nature will then take her retribution once again restoring Earth's balance. Of course this might not happen for decades or even a hundred years, but in geologic time nature is reacting in the twinkling of an eye to bring about the end of the anthropogenic era. Now that I've said that, I'm off to wash my hands.

Membership Update

I am in the process of ordering badges for the new members. I should have them in about 2 weeks as you read this newsletter. I am also going to be ordering club shirts. You've seen them worn by many club members and if you'd like one for yourself, then send me:

1. Quantity and Size
2. Your name spelled as you'd like it to be embroidered
3. \$40 prepay sent via PayPal to the club: mikadopilot@gmail.com

A roster of the current membership will be sent out later this month in accordance with our bylaws. If you have not yet renewed - please do! Everyone receiving the Pilot's Log newsletter is an important contributor to the club. Your membership and support is critical to maintaining our wonderful flying site and in producing the great events we all enjoy during the year.

Let me give you a quick example of what your memberships are used for that you might not have given any thought to. At the field we have a lonesome portable toilet. You might not give it much thought but it's quite important when you need it. We are required under our lease to provide an ADA compliant toilet at the field. The toilet is serviced every Thursday by United Site Services at a cost of \$201.40 per month. I have called many vendors to try and find something less expensive but USS are the cheapest - in some cases by over \$75 per month.

If you look at the cost in terms of a year and membership it comes to \$2,416.80, or just over 24 individual memberships. In the course of running the club there are many incidental expenses you may not have heard about such as annual inspections on our plumbing and electrical. Or the annual inspections by the Corps of Engineers that result in such things as the purchase of fire proof cabinets and fire extinguishers. Price these out and you'll find that your membership is absolutely vital. Thank you for your support!

Here is our latest membership count

Membership Type	Count
Individual	135
Family	13
Associate	8
Life	12
Service & Gift	3
TOTAL	171

That's it for my report this month - see you at the field.

Safety: by Ed Kettler

This month it is a case of "good news, bad news". First, the good news: the NPRM for SUAS Remote ID closed on March 2nd with 53,039 comments received. I want to thank every club member who submitted a comment and suggested improvements in the proposed regulation ... your comments will make a difference! I'd also like to recognize two other organizations I belong to, the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), for standing beside AMA and fighting the proposed rules. This is the first step in a protracted engagement with the FAA, and be prepared for a

long process. We still need to reach out to our elected representatives to pressure the FAA to not impinge on our safe flying activities, so expect further communications over the months ahead.

Now the bad news. We are seeing a massive reaction to the corona virus, and some may say it is a vast over reaction. The response is causing a massive disruption in everyday life, with sporting events being postponed or canceled, and aviation events like our SAE Aero Design and Sun 'N' Fun are being impacted. At the time of this writing, I am not sure of what other impacts there will be on our scheduled events, so watch for update emails coming out from the Thunderbirds. For those of us with health issues, please take extra precautions to avoid exposure and monitor yourself for symptoms. Stay healthy, my friends!

Field Improvements



Let there be light, and no, Bill didn't open the shutters! As can be seen by the photos Bill Lake and his band of merry men did a super job installing flood lights on our storage shed and north end of the shelter. Many thanks to all involved.

Training



Fort Worth Thunderbirds Training Class 2020-01 Graduates. Left to Right: Mel, Ian, Tab, and instructor Woody.

Members' New Projects



Mel's Seagull Models 'Dauntless. Electric powered with retracts.



Woody and his FMS Beaver. Electric powered 4000mAh 6 cell battery. Two flights and when asked how it flies, he responded, "like a J-3 Cub with a radial up front."

THUNDERBIRD TENTATIVE 2020 CALENDAR

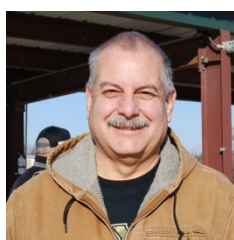
March 20-21	WAMS Swap Meet	<u>CANCELED</u>
April 3-4-5	SAE	<u>CANCELLED</u>
April	AMA Pattern	Chris Beardy/Sam Corbett
May 2nd	Warbird	Ed Kettler
June 12-13	War Birds Over N Texas	Ed Kettler
July	Club Picnic	Club Officers
August 2nd	Summer Float Fly	Woody Lake/Mel Wells

September	Senior Pattern	Wichita Falls TX
September	Pylon Race	Golden Triangle
September	Senior Pattern	Valley Mills TX
September	B-17 Fly-In	Monaville TX
October 16-18	Alliance Airshow	
October	Benbrook Thunder EDF Fly-In	Gary
October 31st	Texas Electric Expo	Tom Blakeney
October	Senior Pattern	Ken Knotts
November	Toys for Tots	
December 12th	Club Christmas Party	Officers

[WWW.FWTHUNDERBIRDS.ORG](http://www.fwthunderbirds.org)

POSITION	BOARD MEMBER	CONTACT EMAIL
President	James Meadows	president@fwthunderbirds.org
Vice President	Rob Lowe	vicepresident@fwthunderbirds.org
Secretary	Mike Schroeder	secretary@fwthunderbirds.org
Treasurer	Chris Berardi	treasurer@fwthunderbirds.org
Safety Officer	Ed Kettler	safetycoordinator@fwthunderbirds.org

Club Officers 2020



Pres: James Meadows

VP: Rob Lowe

Sec: Mike Schroeder

Safety: Ed Kettler

Treas: Chris Berardi

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTIZERS



Roy's Hobby Shop 817 268-0210
 1309 Norwood Dr. Hurst TX 76053
www.royshobby.com



JT's Hobby Shop 817 244-6171
 8808 Camp Bowie Blvd. Fort Worth TX 76116
jtshobby@yahoo.com

Project #	Proposed Project	Summary of Project	TYPE	EXPENSE	POC	Status	Notes
1	HELIPAD	LUXLO Concrete Hubs with ground, Could be Self help or contracted	Self /Contract	\$1,000.00	Officers	APPROVED 2016-17	Will require new Lease /or wait for expiration of 2018 Lease to negotiate Less \$5
2	Line control Area	Develop area for line control modelers	Self /Contract	\$1,000.00	Officers	APPROVED 2017	wait for expiration of Lease
3	Shed Update	Cross Ventilation fan	Contract				Suggest to member ship for Purchase
4	Larger shed/addon	Larger shed to store more stuff	self/contract				Will require new Lease /or wait for expiration of 2018 Lease to negotiate Less \$5
5	Enclose some or the covered shelter area	utilizing rollup doors that can be pulled down when needed	Self /Contract	\$Unknown			Purchase
6	Extend current runway	More stopping distance for models	contract	\$ Unknown			Lease Renewal/cost
7	Tree Removal	Remove trees at approach end of runways. Requires root removal and new plantings	Contract	\$15-\$20,000		IN WORK	requires Corp Approval will request Corp permission and requirements
8	Solar power lights in PIT Area	Allow for some visibility	Self /Contract	\$400.00	James Meadows	testing in Aug	
9	Weather Station , with wind velocity	post on web site for real field condition s	Self	\$5	Chris Berardi		
10	Taller Flag Pole	the old one needs replaced	Self /Contract	\$500.00	Mike Schroeder	Getting Pricing	
11	Quad GATES	Members Request	SELF	\$5	UNK		used in Heli,quadand CL area

CURRENT AMA CARDS ONLY. NO OTHER CARD IS ACCEPTABLE.

THIS FIELD IS LEASED BY, MAINTAINED BY, AND ITS CONSTRUCTION FUNDING WAS SECURED BY
THE FORT WORTH THUNDERBIRDS RADIO CONTROL ASSOCIATION
 ALL AMA, CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY TO EVERYONE FLYING HERE.

1. Neither the Thunderbirds nor the Corps of Engineers is responsible for accident or injury.
2. Place your AMA card in the proper slot above before turning transmitter on.
3. All engines must have effective mufflers.
5. Fly from the station nearest the downwind end of the runway. In case of a crosswind the first pilot to fly will select the station.
6. Aircraft must follow the takeoff and landing pattern in effect.
7. Landing aircraft have the right-of-way over aircraft taking off.
8. Running aircraft shall not be left unattended.
9. No more than 5 pilots shall fly in each designated zone at one time.
10. LMA rules are posted in the bulletin board

Academy of Model Aeronautics National Model Aircraft Safety Code

Effective January 1, 2018

A model aircraft is a non-human-carrying device capable of sustained flight within visual line of sight of the pilot or spotter(s). It may not exceed limitations of this code and is intended exclusively for sport, recreation, education and/or competition. All model flights must be conducted in accordance with this safety code and related AMA guidelines, any additional rules specific to the flying site, as well as all applicable laws and regulations.

As an AMA member I agree:

- I will not fly a model aircraft in a careless or reckless manner.
- I will not interfere with and will yield the right of way to all human-carrying aircraft using AMA's *See and Avoid Guidance* and a spotter when appropriate.
- I will not operate any model aircraft while I am under the influence of alcohol or any drug that could adversely affect my ability to safely control the model.
- I will avoid flying directly over unprotected people, moving vehicles, and occupied structures.
- I will fly Free Flight (FF) and Control Line (CL) models in compliance with AMA's safety programming.
- I will maintain visual contact of an RC model aircraft without enhancement other than corrective lenses prescribed to me. When using an advanced flight system, such as an autopilot, or flying First-Person View (FPV), I will comply with AMA's Advanced Flight System programming.
- I will only fly models weighing more than 55 pounds, including fuel, if certified through AMA's Large Model Airplane Program.
- I will only fly a turbine-powered model aircraft in compliance with AMA's Gas Turbine Program.
- I will not fly a powered model outdoors closer than 25 feet to any individual, except for myself or my helper(s) located at the flightline, unless I am taking off and landing, or as otherwise provided in AMA's *Competition Regulation*.
- I will use an established safety line to separate all model aircraft operations from spectators and bystanders.

For a complete copy of AMA's Safety Handbook please visit:
www.modelaircraft.org/files/100.pdf

Humor



A must have tool for every modeler



Tell the Admiral we found the 'Birdie' from his Bad mitten Set

